

IOWAccess Project Leads • Meeting Summary

March 18, 1998 • 9:30 am - 11:30 am

Iowa Department of Economic Development • Des Moines

US General Services Administration, Washington DC

National Guard Armory, Ottumwa

Project Team Leads Attending

Jim Youngblood, Steering Committee Chair

Ron Amosson, Project 5

Norm Baker, Project 1

Wayne Cooper, Project 9

Dave Gannon, Project 13

Irene Hardisty, Project 6

Elizabeth Henderson, Project 11

Pam Johnson, Projects 2 & 3

Stan Kuhn, Project 11

David Plazak, Project 8

Bruce Ray, Project 6

Darlas Schockley, Project 4

Leon Schwartz, Project 7

Ray Vawter, Project 10

Paul Wieck, Project 12

IOWAccess Team

Dave Arringdale, ITS

Harold Bowman, ICN

Tom Slater, SPPG

Tori Squires, SPPG

Gina Noll, SPPG

Ann Peton, ITS

Call to Order

Jim Youngblood called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and asked those present to introduce themselves.

Iowa Department for the Blind Presentation

Youngblood introduced Lisa Gard and Karen Keninger from the Iowa Department for the Blind who discussed and demonstrated web readers for persons who are visually impaired. Youngblood noted that projects that are developing web pages should keep in mind that IOWAccess should be accessible to all individuals. It was noted that the department is willing to work with departments and agencies that already have web pages to make them accessible to the visually impaired.

IOWAccess Update

Financial Update

Bowman noted that all project leads should have received an updated statement of funds drawn down and obligated by each project. Kuhn stated that the additional \$65,400 for Project 11 has been provided by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

Johnson asked where the funds from the cancelled Arizona project will be used. Youngblood noted that this will be discussed on Friday by the Steering Committee. He also noted that Projects 1, 10, and 13 have requested additional funds.

Status of Project 1

Baker introduced Kent Hiller from Iowa Interactive, the contractor for Project 1. Hiller noted that they are pleased to be in Iowa working on IOWAccess. He stated that they previously worked on a similar project for the State of Indiana. Hiller noted that they are still looking for office space and, in the meantime, he can be contacted at 490-3896. Steve Schrader, the web page designer for Iowa Interactive, will be meeting with all project team leads to discuss how the projects will link into Project 1.

Baker noted that some of the intermediate project timelines have been shifted, but the major target deadlines will remain the same.

Administrative Rules

Youngblood stated that each project will need to determine if administrative rules will need to be changed or defined to successfully implement their projects. This particularly applies to those projects that will be involved in electronic commerce.

Legislative Update

Status of Electronic Commerce – HF 2474

Youngblood noted that HF 2474 has passed the House and is now in the Senate Commerce Committee. An updated version of the bill can be obtained by calling Diane Van Zante at ITS at 515/281-3462.

Status of IOWAccess – HF 2524

Youngblood stated that the bill has come out of the House Commerce Committee and is now in the Appropriations Committee. This bill is not affected by the funnel deadline and it is expected to come out of committee next week.

Questions on either of these bills can be addressed to Tom Shepherd at ITS.

Implementation Update

It was noted by Youngblood that the next critical deadline for all projects is July 1, 1998, when all projects must be up and running. This will allow the projects two months to evaluate and make adjustments.

Baker asked what the procedure is for departments who have other projects in mind and would like funding to pursue them. Youngblood noted that the IT Advisory Council will be setting priorities for additional projects. He asked that information on proposed projects be forwarded to him and he will begin compiling this information. It was noted that ITS may want to send out a letter and information regarding this procedure to all state departments.

Schwartz noted that many state departments are concerned about what will happen to existing department web pages once IOWAccess is up and running. Youngblood noted that this issue will be discussed with Iowa Interactive to ensure that this issue is dealt with.

Project Updates

Projects 2 & 3 – Pam Johnson

Johnson noted that Project 2 is no longer being pursued with Arizona State University. Project 3 is on schedule and has developed a seven-module training for state and local government workers. Three communities – Sioux City, Fort Dodge, and Eddyville – are involved in the pilot. Trainings are being conducted face-to-face and over the ICN. Johnson stated that many project team members are interested in making copies of the manual and wanted to know if this is allowable. Youngblood and Bowman stated that this is not a problem as long it is used for government purposes. Johnson also noted that she would like to make copies available for the project leads and the Steering Committee, but there are not enough funds to make the copies. Hiller noted that this could be made available over the IOWAccess web page.

Project 4 – Darlas Shockley

The project is meeting all of its deadlines. The project is offering Internet classes to the general public with sessions during the day, at night, and on the weekends. The project is using a pre- and post-test to evaluate how effective it is.

Project 5 – Ron Amosson

Budget submission forms have been sent out to cities, counties, and school districts. Amosson noted that reaction to the new process have been very positive from cities and counties. He also stated that the web page has not yet been completed, but that it is expected to be completed on schedule. The project team is also interested in developing a new process for property valuations. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 1.

Project 6 – Bruce Ray

Ray noted that the project team met last Friday with Iowa State University, the project contractor. ISU is currently collecting information from housing assistance providers to be included on the web page. Team members have identified more than 800 sources to be included on the web page. A test of the system will be done at the April meeting.

Project 7 – Leon Schwartz

Schwartz noted that there are two main components to the project that the team is focusing on at this time. The first is the software application, which will house information and will be used by all state departments. The second is the Internet delivery component, which is being developed with the assistance of Iowa Interactive. The third component is professional license renewal. Schwartz noted that without the passage of the digital signature law and subsequent administrative rules being developed, the project will not be able to provide this service. Until this happens, this portion of the project will offer only information on professional licensing. He also noted that an advisory group will probably be formed to ensure that all departments are providing up to date information for the site.

Project 8 – David Plazak

Plazak noted that there are four main components to the project. The first is an Executive Order that will formalize the Iowa Geographic Information Council (IGIC). The team is working with the Governor's office to get this signed. The second component is hiring a GIS Coordinator. The team has selected Ann Peton to fill this position. The third component is bringing the GIS Clearinghouse on-line, which will enable individuals to find GIS information easily. The final component is GIS education. Plazak and Peton noted that the team will be signing a 28E agreement with ISU Extension to provide education over the ICN. This education will focus on beginners and possibly other sessions will be developed for more advanced users of GIS. Peton also stated that the team will look into developing a CD ROM with statewide and local GIS data.

Project 9 – Wayne Cooper

The project is on schedule. Testing of the initial software went well. The project conducted a survey of businesses three months ago to determine whether there would be a benefit to using the new system of tax and wage reporting and responses were positive. Cooper noted that the project is awaiting federal legislation that will allow the IRS to work with Iowa on this project. The team is working with Senator Grassley's office on this.

Project 10 – Ray Vawter

The project team met with Peat Marwick last week to review the draft Electronic Commerce Business Plan. It is expected that the final business plan will be available March 31.

Project 11 – Stan Kuhn

Kuhn noted that the contract with Windsor Technology has been signed. The team will meet with the contractor on May 5. He noted that there have been delays in getting the contract signed due to legal concerns with the contractor. Youngblood expressed concern that the project won't be up and running until August 15 which would leave a very limited time for evaluation. Henderson noted that ongoing internal assessment has been incorporated into the timeline. Youngblood asked that the team review the timeline to assess the possibility of moving deadlines up.

Project 12 – Paul Wieck

Wieck noted that Polk County has installed its hardware. He noted that Linn and Scott Counties will miss the April deadline by a few weeks because of a software glitch.

Project 13 – Dave Gannon

Gannon noted that the project is meeting its deadlines. The project expects to request additional funds from the legislature to extend the project to other parts of the state. Gannon noted that Pat Brockett is leaving the Department of Human Services and will no longer be able to serve as a project co-chair.

Project 14

Slater reported the project is on schedule.

Other Issues

Steering Committee

Youngblood asked that a representative from each project be available to give an update at this Friday's Steering Committee meeting, which will be held from 9:00 am – Noon at IDED.

Citizen Council

Slater noted that at the Council's April 17 meeting, the group will be focusing on privacy issues. Herb Strentz of the Iowa Freedom of Information Council will attend the meeting and discuss his concerns with IOWAccess. Kent Hiller has also been invited to discuss these issues with the Council.

Marketing

Schwartz noted that IDED marketing staff has been asking how overall IOWAccess marketing will be merged with marketing for individual projects.

Slater noted that a marketing strategy was developed and submitted to ITS. Youngblood stated that marketing of IOWAccess is important and that ITS will focus more on marketing after the legislative session.

Final Task for Projects

Bowman reminded project leads that their final task will be to complete and submit a final report to ICN upon completion of the project. These reports are due November 1, 1998. These reports will then be submitted to GSA. Bowman will forward an outline for the report to staff who will forward them to project leads in the near future.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Youngblood adjourned the meeting at 11:40 am.